

**BROOKLYN COLLEGE**  
**POLICY COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the**  
**May 5, 2022 General Meeting**  
**5:00pm via Zoom**

**Present:** President Michelle J. Anderson, Provost Anne Lopes, Chief Diversity Officer Anthony Brown, Dean Kenneth Gould, Dean Maria Conelli, Dean Qing Hu, Dean Peter Toliias, Associate Provost Tammy L. Lewis, Professor Tim Shortell, Professor Beth Evans, Professor James Lynch, Professor Sophia N. Suarez, Professor Jennifer Cherrier, Professor Mark Kobrak, Professor Mobina Hashmi, Professor Namulundah Florence, Professor Louise Hainline, Professor Douglas Cohen, Professor Maria Contel, Iqura Naheed (USG), Aharon Grama (USG), Louis Di Meglio (GSO), Chika Otisi (USG), Sarali Cohen (USG), Flavia Shyti (USG), Maria Jose Romero (USG), Robert Adler (USG), Yisroel Shulman (USG alt), Chavi Barth (USG alt)

**Absent:** Senior Vice President Alan Gilbert, Vice President Ronald Jackson, Chief Legal Officer Tony Thomas, Dean April Bedford, Professor Jennifer Basil, Enmanuel Valdez (USG), Jana Taoube (USG), Thomas D. Santiago (GSO), Amina Tariq (USG),

**Non- voting:** Zunera Ahmed

1. President Anderson called meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.
2. President Anderson provided updates on the State budget regarding CUNY capital projects and funding for mental health counselors. The Eid petition previously approved by Policy Council have been sent to Board of Trustees and the changes to the Governance Plan have been approved by the Board of Trustees CFSA subcommittee.
3. Robert Adler (USG) moved to approve the Minutes of the March 23, 2022, meeting. Sarali Cohen (USG) seconded. The Minutes were unanimously approved.
4. The Governance and Policy Committee presented proposed amendment to the Policy Council Bylaws regarding approval of the standing committee membership.
5. Professor Douglas Cohen moved to send the proposed amendment back to committee. 23 yes, 5 no, 0 abstain
6. The Faculty/Student Relations Committee presented the “Brooklyn College COVID 19 Absence” Policy. The policy is referred to Governance and Policy Committee.
7. Professor Jennifer Cherrier moved to adjourn the meeting. Professor Robert Adler (USG) seconded.

Adjourned 6:00 p.m.

## Proposed Amendment to BYLAWS OF THE BROOKLYN COLLEGE POLICY COUNCIL

Current Language:

### IV. Committees

A. Standing Committees: There shall be five standing committees described below on which members shall serve one-year terms of service. The membership of such committees shall include at least one member from each constituency of Policy Council in conformity with Article I-C.4.c of the Brooklyn College Governance Plan.

1. Executive Committee

The Executive Committee shall consist of four (4) members; one representative of each constituency elected by that constituency during the first Policy Council meeting of the academic year, or sooner, and the President of Policy Council who shall serve as chairperson. The Executive Committee shall act as a nominations committee and as a steering committee; prepare the agenda for Policy Council meetings; supervise the work of standing and ad hoc committees of Policy Council; and act for Policy Council in emergencies. Each academic year, the committee shall act as a nominations committee only after that year's election of members to the Executive Committee. In addition to recommendations from the Executive Committee for service on Policy Council committees, nominations from the floor shall always be appropriate.

Proposed:

### IV. Committees

A. Standing Committees: There shall be five standing committees described below on which members shall serve one-year terms of service. The membership of such committees shall include at least one member from each constituency of Policy Council in conformity with Article I-C.4.c of the Brooklyn College Governance Plan. Prior to the first Policy Council meeting of the academic year, the head of each constituency shall appoint individuals to represent their constituency to serve on all Standing Committees, with the exception of the executive committee. At the first Policy Council meeting of the academic year, the nominations for the Executive Committee shall be elected by the individual constituencies.

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## **Brooklyn College COVID 19 Absence Policy**

Prior to arriving on campus each day or attending an in-person class, students must receive a Cleared for Access pass or have a green check in their BC Navigator app on their mobile phone. However, software may malfunction on any given day. Therefore, faculty should not penalize students who arrive late to class for this reason.

Students who test positive or are a close contact to someone who tested positive must notify the College through the [COVID-19 Case Collection Form](#). If access to campus is restricted based on COVID-19 protocols, students must notify the instructor of their absence by email within 48 hours, if possible. Students are not required to provide the instructor with documentation of COVID-19 symptoms. Students will not be penalized for absences or late course assignments/tests unless they are unable to complete course learning outcomes. Faculty should exercise flexibility in working with students to identify ways to complete course requirements which may include remote participation. Students should confirm that their access to campus is granted prior to coming to campus, and have the required documents to show proof. Absences due to failing to follow proper procedures are not excused.

If COVID-19 related illness results in any missed course work (face-to-face or online), students should proactively work with the instructor to plan make-up work. It remains the student's responsibility to complete any missed work such as assignments, tests, quizzes, labs, or projects outside of scheduled class time. But please realize that class will continue, and students may find themselves in the situation where they are unable to complete all work by the end of the semester. In such a case, students should consider a late withdrawal, medical release from classes, or an incomplete grade. If students have COVID-19 disability related risk factors that may affect attendance, students are strongly encouraged to register with the Center for Student Disability Services to receive necessary accommodations. If students believe the instructor has not made reasonable and appropriate accommodations for absences, or makeup assignments, projects, labs, or exams due to COVID-19, students have the right to submit a complaint to the department chair during the term as well as to appeal a final grade to the Faculty Council Committee on Course and Standing.

Faculty should make every effort as humanely as possible to accommodate students who must miss class due to COVID-19 and ensure that they feel safe to report their status to the College. Keeping our community healthy relies on sick students staying home.

## **Policy Council Fiscal, Infrastructure, and Planning**

*April 2022*

The Committee continued to discuss the Cleared4 process and the challenges we continue to have with individuals not having accurate contact information in Cleared4. Since CUNY just created a QR code that can be used to access individual accounts, we discussed the document we are putting together to explain the process. We would disseminate in multiple ways to reach as broad an audience as possible.

We also discussed how we can improve the ways we can reach more students.